

beat of the evening days, and here upon this platform we find that same rhetoric as mild, as insipid as the waters of a stagnant pool. [Laughter and applause.] He is a candidate who was swept into the nomination on a wave of sectional hate awakened by appeals to prejudice and greed. It is a candidate who has been elected in the initial steps of his trip eastward declared that this is the beginning of a revolutionary movement, but no sooner found himself face to face with the American feeling than he realized that this soil is not propitious to revolution; that the people of this country will not change the institutions which have stood the tests and experiences of a century for institutions based upon the fantastic dreams of Populist agitators; that the American nation will never consent to substitute for the republic of Washington, of Jefferson, and Jackson, the republic of an Albigel, a Tillman, or a Bryan. [Applause.]

ROY ORATORY NOT THE NAME HERE AS ON THE PLATTE.

"The power of public opinion which caused the vivid oratory of the Chicago Convention to burn low and soft as the moonlight on this platform, which has already shown its power to control popular eloquence, will show the full extent of its wisdom, as the people of this country's prophecy its triumphant vindication, when it crushes the seed of populist socialism next November. [Cheers.]

"Now, my friends, I have said there was one statement of great significance in Mr. Bryan's speech. There is another portion of it which is singularly free from any obscurity, and that is contained within the two initial paragraphs, in which he talks logically, consistently, plainly the language of revolution. Whatever change may have come over his manner as a candidate, however much the force of his eloquence may have been reduced, two things for which he stands remain unaltered. On this platform he defended the most revolutionary planks of the Chicago Convention in a speech less vehement, but not less earnest, than in that which he supported their adoption at the national convention.

"On this platform Mr. Bryan defended the Populist program of overthrowing the integrity of the Supreme Court. [Applause.] If there be any fruit which has grown for the benefit of all mankind out of the establishment of our Republic, it is the demonstration that it is possible by the organization of an independent tribunal to safeguard the rights of every citizen, and protect those natural privileges against any invasion from whatever source or however powerful might be the antagonizing elements. [Applause.] The very existence of the power presupposes the existence of an individual who is not a slave, but who has the Populist's Convention, because a Populist measure was condemned as unconstitutional, proposing, not to amend the Constitution in the ordinary way prescribed by that instrument itself, but proposing to back the court to restore it. It is the language of the platform itself, so that it will pronounce those laws to be constitutional which the Constitution itself condemns; a proposal to make the courts of law instruments of lawlessness; to violate that sacred pact between the States and the security of this nation rests; to profane the temple erected for its protection, by the hands of false priests who, though sworn to defend it, will be appointed to destroy it. [Great applause.]

THE ROY ORATOR'S SILVER QUACKERY.

"In the time to which I must confine myself to-night I can do nothing but examine that one question which has been the subject of the overhanging issue of this campaign. I am a little puzzled when I read his speech to decide just what Mr. Bryan himself imagines will be the fruit of a change in the standard of values throughout this country. I do not believe that any man can quarrel wholly with the speech; because if he disenta from one set of conclusions, let him only skip a few paragraphs and he will find another of a different variety. But assume that it is fair in a discussion of this character, independently of what Mr. Bryan may say, or that it is fair in a discussion, for, to examine the inevitable economic effects of a debasement of the coinage, of a change in the standard by which existing debts are to be measured in a baser measure of value. I imagine Mr. Bryan himself may believe that by any means known to heaven or known on earth, any man revealed to the comprehension of man, that wages could be increased, I am ready to support him here and now. [Great applause and cheers.] I do not make this statement through any pretense of special affection for the man who works with his hands. Such a pretense would be the heat of a Presidential canvass would merely insult and discredit the intelligence to which it is addressed. [Applause.] I repeat that I would support any measure calculated to increase the rate of wages, because I know of no test more proper than the rate of wages paid to labor. [Applause.] Where the rate of wages is high, there must be prosperity. Where the rate of wages is low, there must necessarily be distress. If, then, Mr. Bryan can show me that the enforcement of any portion of his program wages will be increased in this country, I will not only support him, but I will recognize him as the wisest orator that ever opened his mouth on a platform since the beginning of the world. [Laughter.] I will not say that I am ready to hear the rhetoric which I do not now understand, is really the language of inspiration. [Laughter.] I will regard his administration of the Presidency as the kindling of a great light before the footsteps of man, showing him a broad pathway to endless happiness and measurement. [Laughter.] In reading through the whole mass of Populist literature with which this country has been flooded for four years, I have never yet found one syllable which showed me how a Populist expected to increase the rate of wages. [Laughter and great applause.]

A PEEP BEHIND BRYAN'S HAM HITCH-THROAT.

"Now, in order to understand the significance of the remark that wages is the only test of prosperity, we have but to consider for a moment just what is meant by the term wages. Wages, as I suppose everybody here understands, is the rate of value which is given to himself in compensation for his toll. If, for instance, I am engaged in the manufacture of chairs, and I can make five chairs every day worth \$10 and the rate of my wages is \$4 a day, I actually get in one chair out of five which I make. The other four chairs, the other four-fifths of my product, are devoted to the payment of all the other labor that has been expended in preparing the elements out of which the chair was made. To the man who felled the tree in the forest, the person who cut the log in the mill, the carrier who transported it, the workman who prepared its component parts, and the profit on the capital which set all this labor in motion. It is plain, however, that I could not take one chair home with me at night, and I could not take one chair with me to divide the chair among my creditors, that moment it would lose its value; so, instead of taking the chair, which I cannot divide, I take the equivalent in money, which I can divide; but wages is not the rate of value which is given to myself, but the rate of value which is given to the other laborer, the man who paves the street cannot take a part of the highway home with him; but each one takes the money equivalent of that part of the product which is the result of his daily toll, and the laborer is the man who has the most vital interest in the character of the money which is paid to him. [Applause.]

"Now, when we come to find out how Mr. Bryan expects to increase the wages of labor, we find ourselves lost in a maze of contradiction and in a haze of obscure expressions. No man can tell how or where or when the wages of the workmen are to be increased; but any one who examines the scheme can see that the inevitable tendency, the inevitable consequence of a debasement in the standard of value must be a reduction in the rate of wages and that is the conspiracy in which the Populist is engaged. [Applause.]

SOME ELEMENTARY MONEY TALK FOR BRYAN.

"Now, Mr. Bryan tells us that he wants to cheapen the dollar; that he wants to increase the volume of money. I do not believe that any man who ever lived could quite understand a Populist's notion of what money is. [Laughter.] I remember that in one of his speeches, I remember that when he delivered his way East he declared that any man who objected to too much money ought to vote the other ticket. [Laughter.]

"Now, my friends, I will ask you to indulge me for a moment while I ask you to consider the concept of an honest man, in form of money, in order that in discussing this thing hereafter we will be able to understand the economic expressions which the Populist uses for the delusion of men and for the confusion of his own judgment.

"Nothing more common than the mistake that his money and property are identical. They are not. A redundancy of money does not prove any property. There may be a very large volume of circulating medium and very great poverty. The issue of paper money simply is no increase of wealth. It is the issue of an individual of his promissory note would show an increase of his property. [Applause.]

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HOW DISTURBED BY BRYANISM REACTS ON THE CURRENT.

"Money never can circulate freely and actively unless there be absolute confidence in its value. [Applause.] If a man doubts whether the money offered him will be as valuable tomorrow as it is today, he will not exchange his commodity against it. This Populist agitation threatening the integrity of money has been the cause of the hard times through which this country is passing and from which it will not escape until it has been completely condemned and placed upon the Populist agitation which undermines the foundations of credit. [Applause.]

WHERE THE PER-CAPITA QUACK BREAKS DOWN.

"Now, my friends, in the larger transactions of life there is no money used at all. The comparison of values with money is purely a matter of convenience. For instance, a farmer sells a cargo of wheat in Chicago, a draft is drawn for the money, and the draft is cashed in New York to purchase property by the merchant who owes for a consignment of silk at Lyons. [Applause.]

"A check is remitted to Chicago in payment of the draft. The farmer draws his checks against that check for all the debts which he owes. He never plans his crop, he never determines the rate of wages paid to labor. [Applause.] Where the rate of wages is high, there must be prosperity. Where the rate of wages is low, there must necessarily be distress. If, then, Mr. Bryan can show me that the enforcement of any portion of his program wages will be increased in this country, I will not only support him, but I will recognize him as the wisest orator that ever opened his mouth on a platform since the beginning of the world. [Laughter.] I will not say that I am ready to hear the rhetoric which I do not now understand, is really the language of inspiration. [Laughter.] I will regard his administration of the Presidency as the kindling of a great light before the footsteps of man, showing him a broad pathway to endless happiness and measurement. [Laughter.] In reading through the whole mass of Populist literature with which this country has been flooded for four years, I have never yet found one syllable which showed me how a Populist expected to increase the rate of wages. [Laughter and great applause.]

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